

LINKING LANDSCAPES FOR MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE

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An Effort to Improve Landscape Connectivity in Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife - Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, and the University of Massachusetts have launched **Linking Landscapes for Massachusetts Wildlife** (LLMW) a long-term and multifaceted volunteer based monitoring program and planning collaboration to be implemented throughout the state. Utilizing expertise from various state departments along with collaboration with the public, LLMW's objectives are to:

- Reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve public safety
- Enhance, protect, and restore habitats impacted by roads
- Incorporate conservation priorities into transportation planning
- Implement wildlife transportation and research

This website represents an important strategic component: to gather information on the locations of wildlife roadkill hotspots. As a citizen, you can help by contributing data or volunteering to survey road segments. Or, feel free to read more about our proactive efforts to protect rare wildlife. Scroll down for links to our major projects.

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Turtle Roadway Mortality Study Methods

A photograph of a road with a worker in a safety vest standing on the shoulder, with a car in the distance and a guardrail in the foreground. The scene is outdoors with trees and a clear sky.

Conduct Surveys

-Last Week of May

-Second Week of June

-Last Week of June

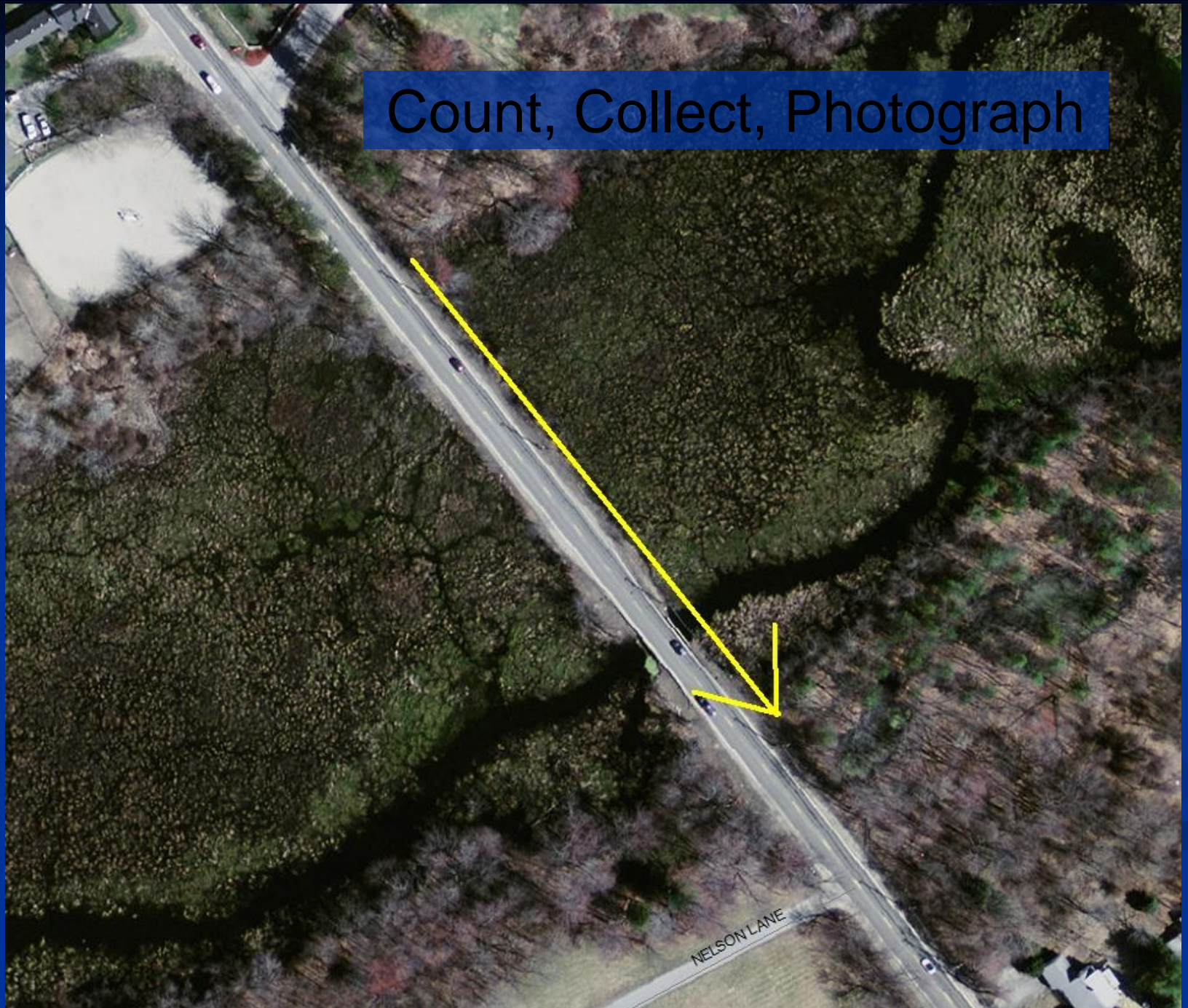
-First Two Weeks of September

Survey Protocol

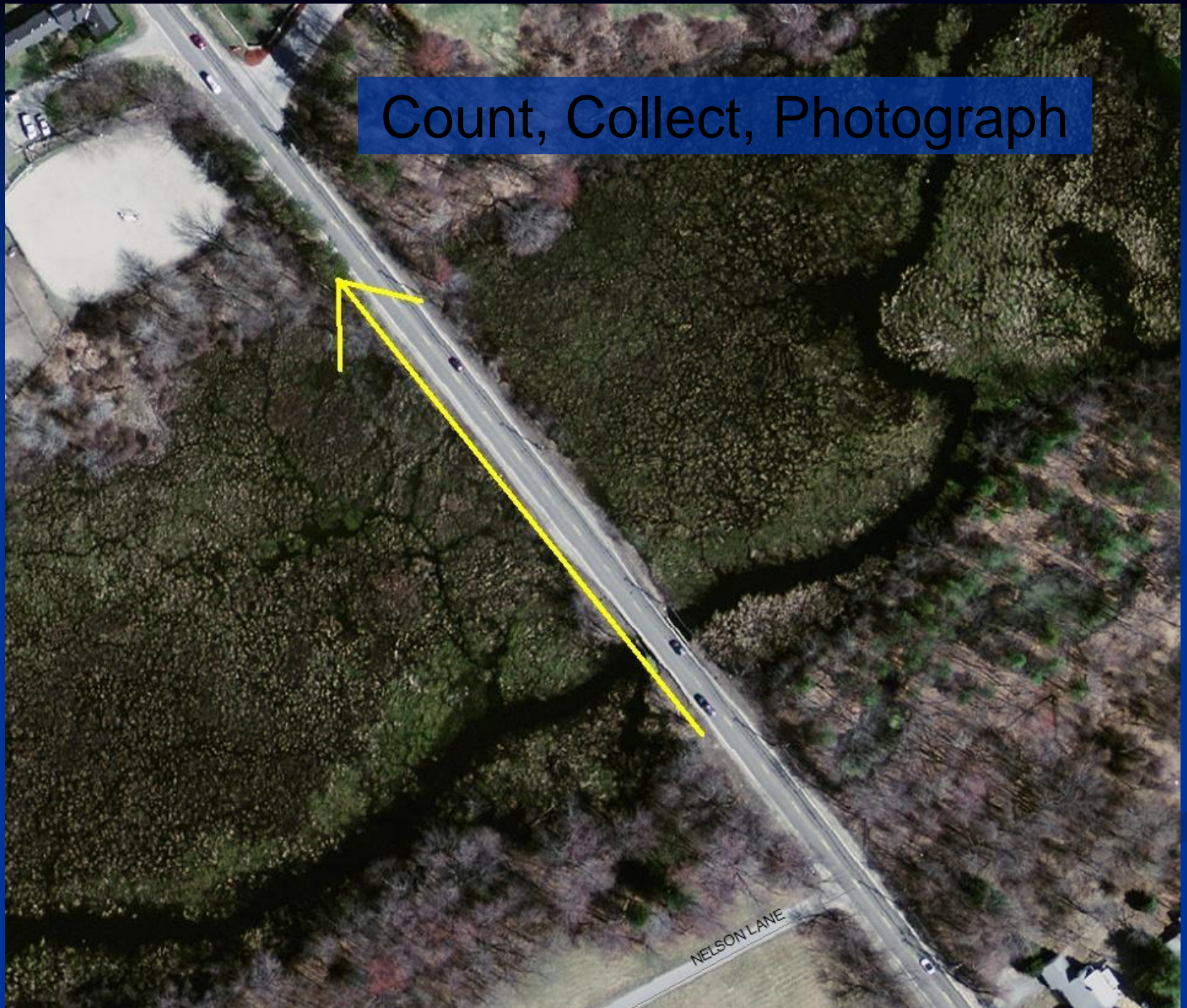
- Count the number of all species of turtles present (dead or alive) on the road or road shoulder
 - Use best judgment in determining whether a partial carcass represents a single turtle
 - You'll also see dead snakes, frogs, birds, and small mammals. These can be tallied en masse, not necessarily by species, and entered with the rest

- Record the number, species, and age (adult, juvenile, hatchling)
 - For painted turtles, under 3-4" carapace length (top shell) is usually juvenile

Count, Collect, Photograph



Count, Collect, Photograph



Field Form

Massachusetts Turtle Roadkill Monitoring Project Field Form

Survey Date: _____

Observer Name(s): _____

Site Name (short description): _____

Site Location (street(s); waterbody; town): _____

Please enter the total number of dead turtles observed during your survey. Follow this number with a breakdown by species, if possible (e.g., painted turtles = 10 adults, 2 juveniles, etc.). Use the comments section at the end of the form for additional space.

Species	Adult	Juvenile	Hatchling	Unknown	Total(s)
Painted					
Snapping					
Musk					
Spotted					
Wood					
Eastern Box					
Blanding's					
Unknown _____					
Unknown _____					
Total(s)					

Additional Information: _____

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Please Complete
Requested Information



Enter your turtle roadway survey results using the form below

Report locations where multiple turtles experience roadway mortality on a yearly basis. To identify these locations, look for causeways and other roads which bisect wetlands, roads with undersized or improperly placed culverts, and roads bisecting wetland habitat from nesting habitat. If you are interested in monitoring one of these locations, please email [David Paulson](mailto:David.Paulson@state.ma.us) for more information.

Full Name
First Name Last Name

E-mail

Affiliation

If affiliation is
"Other," please enter
it here:

Survey Site Name:

Describe the location
of your survey site
(be specific when
referring to roads
and waterbodies):

Please note that in order to use/view the map, you must allow the site to know your location.
This information is only used draw the google map for the survey. Thank you for your time
and effort.



Results of Survey #1 (Late May)

Date of Survey #1 - -

Painted Turtles

Snapping Turtles

Musk Turtles

Spotted Turtles

Blanding's Turtles

Wood Turtles

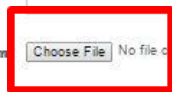
Unidentified Turtles

Other Turtles

Comments

Upload Image from Survey #1 No file chosen

Upload
Photograph(s)
After Each
Survey



Results of Survey #3 (Late June)

Date of Survey #3 - -

Painted Turtles

Snapping Turtles

Musk Turtles

Spotted Turtles

Blanding's Turtles

Wood Turtles

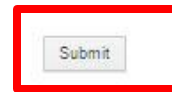
Unidentified Turtles

Other Turtles

Comments

Upload Image from Survey #3 No file chosen

Additional Comments



Last Step!